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EDC 102

After reading Chapter 2 of FAE, I found that I am now able to look at the educational system and its growth over the years in much greater depth. Seeing the way schooling worked in the 1700’s and how parts of it are still instilled in schools today shows how much of an impact the past can have on the educational system. Furthermore, this chapter explored how some individuals had the opportunity for education denied from them, especially those of different religion, race, origin and for women. Being a woman who has never struggled to find an educational setting in which I feel I am treated as an equal to the men, it is difficult to read about the times in our history when women were repeatedly denied the right to learn. When the Nineteenth Amendment passed in 1920, women were granted the right to vote for the first time in the U.S. yet still were unable to be given the same educational opportunities that men had. Learning from the mistakes and triumphs of the past can help both educators and students create an educational setting that works best for everyone involved.

Chapter 3 of FAE touched upon many different yet important aspects of education that have shaped the system into what it is today. What I was surprised by is that home schooling was given its own section of this chapter and talked about; as it is something many people chose to not note as a legitimate form of education. As a child who was home schooled, I understand the question of motives and lesson plans but respect that they distinguished home schooling as a proper form of learning. In addition to this, it was relevant as a college student to read about teacher effectiveness. The structure and curriculum teachers follow in order for their students to learn to the best of their ability is one of the most important aspects of learning. While the effective teaching movement is a seemingly newer concept, the emphasis put on “demonstration, prompting, and practice is a far cry from the relatively unstructured classroom activities of the recent past.” (FAE pg 67). The school system, as well as teachers and understanding of different forms of schooling such as private schools and home schooling, has changed immensely since its beginning and has proven to thrive as more steps are taken to improve it.